(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Expenditure
2004-05	89.15
2005-06	132.58
2006-07	135.11*

*Provisional

(b) and (c) No such incident has been reported.

Problem of drinking water

3777. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at least five per cent house-holds in the country still do not have a source of drinking water within one kilometer radius, even after 60 years of freedom; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and what steps Government have taken to address the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) As reported by the States, there are about 2% habitations not covered with drinking water source within 1.6 km.

(b) The major problems encountered by the States for covering these habitations are (i) Population lives in scattered habitations en isolated hilly terrain; (ii) the cost of water supply system network for the same is very high due to inaccessibility of habitations; (iii) multi stage pumping; (iv) depleting surface streams; (v) lack of ground and surface sources availability near the habitations; (vi) difficulty in procurement and transportation of materials; (vii) long gestation period; (viii) poor recharge of ground water due to hard rock in many places; (ix) deterioration of water quality.

Under Bharat Nirman, a time bound plan of action for covering such habitations has been formulated.